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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2131

DO NOT ENTER
K.A. 7/27/05

PATENT
5181-70000/P5196

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/653,609
Filed: August 31, 2000
Inventors:
Slaughter, et al.

Examiner: Abrishamkar, Kaveh
Group/Art Unit: 2131
Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-70000

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD
FOR SECURE MESSAGE-
BASED LEASING OF
RESOURCES IN A
DISTRIBUTED
COMPUTING
ENVIRONMENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Printed Name


Signature

June 30, 2005

Date

**RESPONSE TO FINAL ACTION OF
MAY 4, 2005**

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Final Action of May 4, 2005, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.